



St. Mark's
Church

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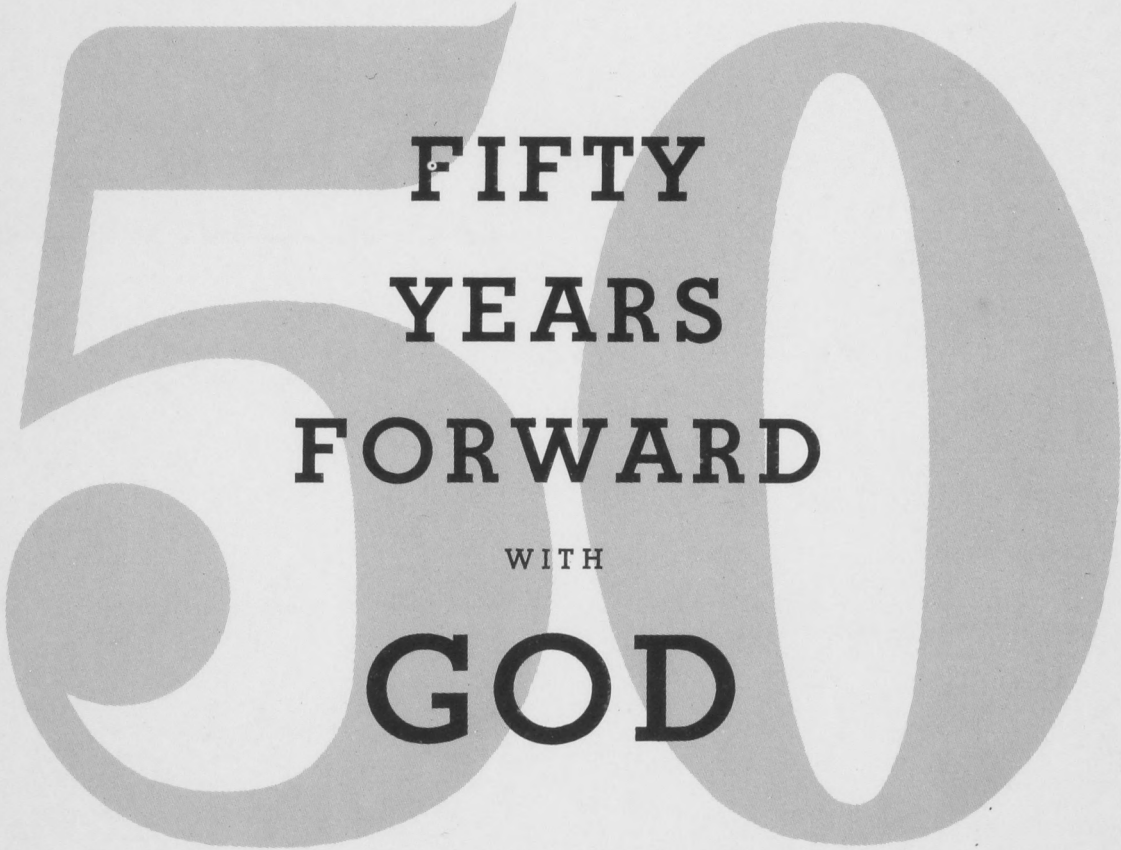
50th
ANNIVERSARY



St. Mark's Anglican Church

1802 - 33 Avenue South West
CALGARY ALBERTA

OCTOBER 6, 1962
CELEBRATING



**FIFTY
YEARS
FORWARD
WITH
GOD**

The Bishop's Message

My dear people of St. Mark's:

The 50th Anniversary of your parish will be celebrated at the beginning of October, 1962. It is most propitious that this celebration should coincide with the time of the year when we give thanks to Almighty God for his blessing upon our country. We shall be thinking of the harvest of the grain and the vegetables, and we shall give thanks for the cattle upon a thousand hills. We shall be rejoicing in the fact that in this country we have such an abundance of all of God's good things, not only the things that sustain man bodily but those wonderful natural resources of oil and minerals which prosper us with their wealth.

Our time of national thanksgiving will be a great blessing to us, especially as we share our bounty with others less fortunate than ourselves. We need bread for ourselves but in this day we need bread for others who are in short supply. Hardly a day passes but we see pictures of those in need — in the newspapers and on the T.V. screen. These people are God's children just as we are and our responsibility towards them is great, both as citizens of Canada and as members of the Church. As Christians we must be concerned about food for the body and food for the soul because we have been called by Jesus who is the Bread of Life to minister to men's need of body and soul.

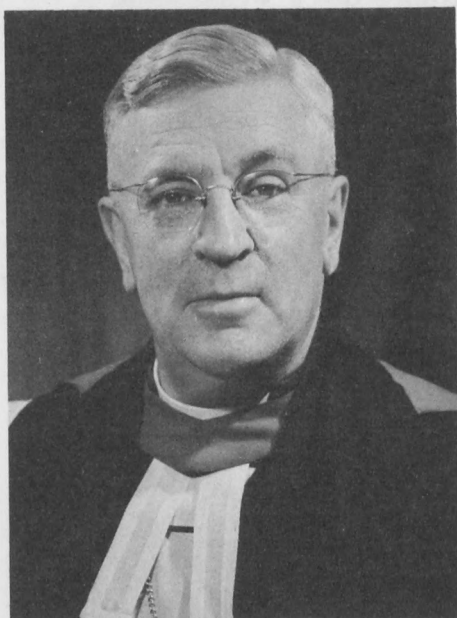
I recall preaching in the little St. Mark's Church about twenty-five years ago. I rejoice with you in the great strides which have been made in the establishing of a self-supporting parish and in the interest which is shown by St. Mark's people in the Mission of the Church in the world today.

May you celebrate this Golden Jubilee with gratitude to God for His leadership and Love vouchsafed during this time and may your prayer be that His grace may always prevent and follow you in the good work of spreading the Gospel of Salvation to all men.

Ever your friend and bishop,

George Calgary

George Calgary

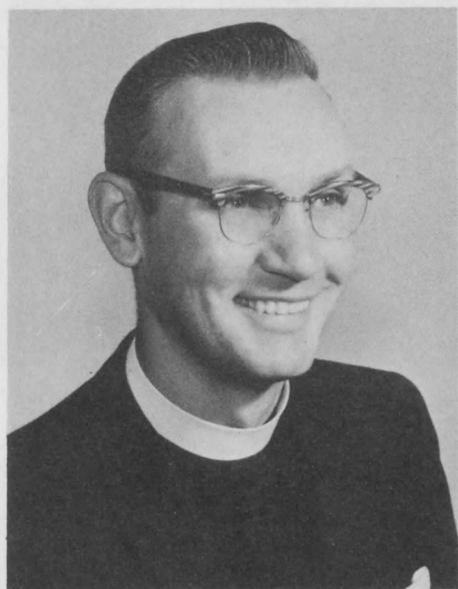


The Rector's Foreword

This Booklet comes to you with the hope that it will be a reminder of our history and our heritage here in the Parish of St. Mark. For fifty years our Church has been a centre of worship, religious instruction, and Christian fellowship in this community. No one can say that it has been easy. As the history of the Parish shows, there were many obstacles to growth, not only lack of finances, but also lack of members, and ministers, and building space. Many were the years of discouragement and downright frustration. But it is the story of determination, of faith, of courage and hard work, and of the will to live.

Of course, much effort over the years was put into building the two Churches and Halls, and many of our present parishioners have first-hand experiences of these. And as we glance through the pictures, we get the impression that St. Mark's was always in the construction business. True enough. But in reality, the most important work over the years was done with people. People whose lives were being built up in faith and love; people whose lives were filled with the thrilling adventure of living with God day by day. As I read over the old records of vestry meetings, church services and annual reports, I cannot help but feel that we owe so much to so many through the years. This Booklet is a small token of our gratitude and appreciation.

Congratulations and thanks must be given to our Anniversary Committee, consisting of the Wardens, Messrs. Ray Kingsmith and Doug Knowles, and Bert Mould. These have worked long and hard to produce this fine Booklet, and to arrange all the activities of our Anniversary Celebrations. We are all indebted to their labours.



Lastly, may I say a word of personal thanks? I have been Rector of this Parish for five and a half years, and these have been without question the happiest years of my life. I know my wife would like to join me in thanking all our parishioners for their friendship and willing co-operation. May the next fifty years of this Parish be as fruitful in good works as the last, and may we continue to go forward with God.

*Your friend and Rector,
GORDON HENDRA.*



1962 WARDENS AND VESTRY

Insets, left to right, J. A. (Jack) Morris, G. W. (Gordon) White, J. L. (Les) Truswell.

Front Row, left to right, R. A. (Ray) Kingsmith, Rector's Warden; The Rev. G. E. (Gordon) Hendra; Miss G. I. (Gladys) Halsall, Vestry Secretary; R. D. (Doug) Knowles, People's Warden.

Back Row, left to right, A. S. (Stan) Huntrods; F. J. (Jack) Harrington; A. (Arthur) Townsend, Hon. Vestryman; J. R. (Jack) Queen, Hon. Vestryman; J. C. (Jack) Routledge; W. D. (Dave) Curwen; T. J. (Tom) Duckworth; G. (Geoff) Brown; T. J. (Terry) Dunn, Vestry Treasurer; F. E. (Frank) Wright; R. B. (Bert) Mould.

History of our Parish

St. Mark's Church was dedicated by Bishop Cyprian Pinkham on Wednesday, October 6, 1912. Present at the service were the Venerable Archdeacon J. W. Tims, D.D., Canon A. J. B. Dewdney, Canon G. H. Hogbin and the Rev. W. G. James, then the Rector of St. Stephen's. There were ninety-five persons present and the offertory amounted to \$19.55; and note this—The church building cost \$1,525.00, the stove \$16.00, chairs \$60.00, organ \$60.00, prayer books and vestments \$13.50, and the bell \$55.00.

Regular services commenced at St. Mark's on the 21st Sunday after Trinity, October 27, 1912, the Holy Communion being celebrated at 11:00 a.m. by the Rev. G. Bousefield. After this date the Rev. J. W. Thompson, curate at St. Stephen's, took charge and later became Rector of St. Mark's together with St. Martin's Church in the Killarney District of West Calgary.

The first Confirmation Class, prepared by the Rev. J. W. Thompson and confirmed at the hands of Bishop Pinkham, was held on Thursday in Holy Week 1915. There were eight candidates.

The first congregational meeting was held on January 26, 1913, followed by the first Vestry meeting later in the evening.

It is difficult to ascertain the exact starting date of our church groups but we do know that the Vestry were asking the Women's Group for money as early as March, 1913, so it would seem that our organizations are nearly as old as the church itself.

There is no accurate record of when the first Parish Hall was built but it is noted in the Vestry minutes of August 12, 1913, that the Rector opened a general discussion on the need for one. On January 12, 1914, there is record of the Vestry having established a Hall Fund, separate from regular Vestry funds. Apparently our first hall followed shortly.

The Rev. J. W. Thompson resigned on October 25, 1915, and the Rev. C. W. Horne (later Canon Horne), the Rector of Christ Church, took the evening services while the 11:00 a.m. services were discontinued temporarily.

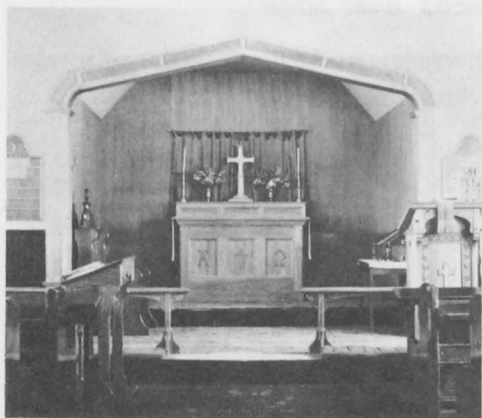
From the records available it would seem that The Rev. T. B. Winter (later Canon Winter) took over as acting Rector of St. Mark's from



An early picture of the old St. Mark's Church decorated for Easter. Note the altar at west end and the old iron pipe Communion rail.



A 1930's picture of Harvest Thanksgiving in old church. Note altar is now at east end and the new Communion rail carved by Mr. Newstead and still in use in new church.



One of the last pictures taken inside the old church. Note the Arch in Chancel donated by Mr. W. St. John Miller. The Arch is now used in the Baptistry of the new church.

June until November in 1916 when he went overseas as an army chaplain. The Rev. C. W. Horne from Christ Church came back on another temporary basis until September 1917. There was a considerable amount of discussion regarding the closing of St. Mark's as a Parish and only through the efforts of such stalwarts as Messrs. Miller, Gale, Richmond and Leslie were they able to continue worship here, if somewhat spasmodic. In February 1918 the Rev. Canon Gale from St. John's, East Calgary, volunteered his services every Tuesday and this continued until August 1918 when the Rev. E. Cox Clarke, then retired, agreed to fill in at the 11:00 a.m. services, until a permanent Rector could be appointed. Mr. Clarke continued on a temporary basis until ill health forced his retirement early in 1919. There were few, if any, services held from Easter until September 1919 when the Rev. H. H. Wilford was appointed Rector. The Vestry even went so far as to rent a house for the Rector at \$25.00 per month — the Rev. Canon Gale having signed the lease.

It is recorded that a Masonic Lodge was formed for South Calgary in July 1920, with our old Parish Hall as their headquarters. This Lodge was named St. Mark's, after the church, and the Rector at the time, The Rev. H. H. Wilford, was a senior warden and Art Chatfield and Bill Roche were also lodge wardens. These two men were long time active workers in the church.

It is interesting to note that in the summer of 1920 a meeting was held between the Vestry and the Women's Guild to discuss St. Mark's becoming a self-supporting Parish. It was further suggested that our sister parish of St. Martin's make the move with us. There is no question that this was certainly progressive thinking, but it took almost thirty years to implement.

On April 30th, 1922, there is record of the death of our first Rector, The Rev. James W. Thomson. Mr. Thomson passed away at the Keith Sanatorium and was buried from St. Mark's Church by Mr. Wilford.

On May 1st, 1923, a new Rectory was leased at 1801 - 33 Avenue South West. The rent was \$35.00 per month but the Vestry would only pay \$30.00, the Rector being responsible for the balance.

On December 30th, 1926, The Rev. H. H. Wilford resigned as Rector of St. Mark's and St. Martin's, to return to his native England, the resignation effective from February 1st, 1927.

The Rev. Arthur S. Wiley from Winnipeg accepted the call to St. Mark's and St. Martin's and commenced his duties on March 15th, 1927. Mr. Wiley's induction service was held on March 22nd, 1927, at St. Mark's.

It is noted with regret that a former Vestry Secretary and an active worker since the Church was formed, Mr. Fred W. Leslie, had passed away on August 21, 1928. (Editor's note: Much of the information in this booklet was taken directly from the accurate and somewhat humorous Vestry records kept by Mr. Leslie.)

The following is an excerpt taken from Mr. Miller's "History of St. Mark's" written for our twenty-fifth anniversary in 1937:

"In Rev. Wiley's time the idea of re-orienting the church was evolved, apparently what was acceptable to the 'high church' was not so to the 'low', thus the East-End became the West-End and vice-versa. This meant working 'bees' in close succession between Sundays but the job was achieved, and we have faced 'Mecca' ever since."

On November 30th, 1927, Bishop Sherman re-dedicated our church, and while the service attracted 72 Parishioners, the collection only amounted to \$8.05.

During July and August of 1928, Mr. Wiley was ill and on holidays and the services were taken by The Rev. Norman Plummer, whom many remember well.

The Rev. A. S. Wiley resigned his care of St. Mark's and St. Martin's on October 11th, 1931, and The Rev. R. C. Brown became our Rector on October 25th of the same year. No Vestry records are available for this period in the history of St. Mark's but the Parish register indicates that Mr. Brown (later Canon Brown) was inducted on April 30th, 1932, with the following notables in attendance: Archdeacon J. W. Tims, C. Swanson, G. Gale, R. W. Robinson, J. M. Roe and Norman Plummer. Here and there



The Rev. Wilford teaching his twins to ride. After all this is the Stampede City.



The ladies have a meeting at 1807 - 33 Ave. S.W. Some names, King, Queen, Hawes, Hahn, Newstead, Booth, Seal, Lloyd, Moxam, Hughes, Davies.



A Bible Class. Picture taken in old church hall. Mr. Neve, others are Messrs. Miller, Hyatt, Johnson, Britton, King, Wills, Jenkins; Misses Hawes, Miller, Braid, Hickson, Florendine, Wills, Nickle, Gates, Hyatt, Bishop, Neve.



A Sunday School Class. The teacher, Mrs. (Rae) Gordon, nee Grant, the Husky footballers, D. Tomlinson, F. Wilmot, B. Kilroe and T. Hosell.



An early Choir at St. Mark's: Rev. Wilford, Messrs. Miller, Hawes, Scott; some of the boys, Scott, Britton, Hawes, Chatfield, King.



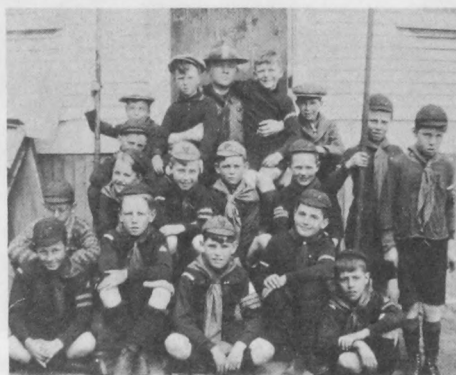
A Confirmation with Bishop Sherman and Rev. Brown. The boys, Leche, King, Hardy, Grant. The ladies' names not available.

throughout the Parish register, Mr. Plummer has signed the book as being Assistant Minister, and we can't help wondering what his pay as Assistant would have been when the average monthly contributions only averaged about \$50.00 to \$70.00 per month.

You will see a few pictures of Mr. Brown in this booklet, particularly with the young people, in whom he was greatly interested. Once again quoting from Mr. Miller's 1937 booklet, here is what was written about Mr. Brown: "A happy memory to many, especially the young people. Convincing preacher. Regretfully spared to bigger fields." Mr. Brown left St. Mark's and St. Martin's on July 15th, 1934, and the "bigger fields" have taken him to many Parishes over the years. He is presently the Rector of St. Mary's Church in Walkerville, Ontario. In a recent letter received from Canon Brown he has offered his warmest congratulations, and asked to be remembered to his many friends at St. Mark's and St. Martin's.



Seventh Scout Troop in the 1930's, Rev. Brown, Cleaver, Hyatt, Leche, King, Britton, Collins, Pratt, Gough, McMahon, Hahn, Nash.



Cubs of the late 1920's, Leader, Woodhouse; Cubs, King, Nash, Pratt, Baker, McMahon, Scott, Cleaver, Leche.



A real Brownie Group of the early 1930's on parade and down at The Swimmin' Hole — Sandy Beach.

The Rev. Robert Axon (presently Archdeacon Axon) took over the reins as Rector on September 2nd, 1934, and many firsts were recorded during his stay as our Minister. One of the "firsts" we should all be proud of is that on Christmas Eve, 1934, the first Midnight Communion Service ever held in an Anglican Church in Calgary, took place at St. Mark's with Mr. Axon officiating. There were 71 in attendance at that noteworthy service. A highlight that Archdeacon Axon probably remembers well is the re-lining of the old Hall walls which took place during his stay at St. Mark's. It is recorded that "Rev. Axon's black cloth turned to gray under the avalanche of flying plaster".

Archdeacon Axon left the Parishes of St. Mark's and St. Martin's on June 14th, 1936, but we are pleased and proud that he did return, for he and Mrs. Axon presently live just a block from the Church and are among our favorites of the faithful attenders.

On October 2nd, 1936, The Rev. Frederick Vaughan-Birch (later Canon Vaughan-Birch) was inducted as our Rector with the following in attendance: Archdeacon Tims, John W. House (who preached), George Lang, W. H. Morgan, F. W. Ross Gibney, A. H. Priest, J. R. Davies and Cecil Swanson.



**A Good Pack — Seventh Group —
Leader, L. Miller.**



St. Mark's Bible Class, May 24, 1934, on a hike. Rev. Brown, Misses Miller, MacMahon, Smith, Herridge, Grant, Neve, Morrison, Warren, Florendine, Pratt, Grant, Dear, Hahn, Main, Scott. Some of the gay boys, Miller, Cleaver, Leche, Millner, Collins, Pinder, Crab, King, Jobins, Mould, Dear, Bates, Smith, Swales, Cheney, Pratt, Hahn.



Ladies of the Thirties, Burns, Hampton, Herridge, Collins, Gough, Dear, Davies, King, Florendine, Reid, Hawes, McMahon, Britton, Collier.

During Mr. Vaughan-Birch's stay, our twenty-fifth anniversary was celebrated. At the Anniversary Church Service held October 6th, 1937, Bishop Sherman preached to an overflow crowd of 158 people, the largest attendance recorded up to that time.

Perhaps some of you remember the Mission held during March, 1939. This was known as Father Smye's Mission and very good attendance is recorded.

We feel that Mr. Vaughan-Birch must have faced a particularly difficult task during his term at St. Mark's, what with so many young people gone to war and further just coming out of a terrible depression, and it is noted regretfully that there were many 8:00 a.m. services when no one attended at all, and attendance was down considerably at the other services.

When reading Mr. Vaughan-Birch's letters to the Parishioners one cannot help but admire his spirit, never-ending faith and sheer determination to carry on. I wonder if he remembers the following taken from one of his letters in 1940: "St. Mark's is a struggling church, but is probably more alive in some ways than any church in the City. I have tried to make it possible for everyone to have the help of the Church and God bless everyone of you who are helping me to do this. Some of you tell me that I am too serious about my job, well it's not the services and ministrations I am concerned about, but a Church is a business too, and I have, therefore, to be a business man as well, and it is a wonder that my 'bald spot' isn't any larger." To this we can only add "Amen".

A copy of the 1939 budget showed an expected income of \$1,769.77, which included a whopping \$1,220.00 for Rector's Stipend. Later records reveal that the Rector received less than \$1,000.00 that year.

And how many remember the "Dwarf Fund" of 1938? A detailed record is on file showing contributions to August 18th, 1938, totalling \$56.98 and numerous contributions of time and material for the Lych Gate.

Mr. Vaughan-Birch left us in April 1941 moving to High River. Many of his old friends from here and there still inquire after him. He is presently ministering to the needs of the Anglican families around Sidney on Vancouver Island.

The Rev. J. R. Davies came to us from Ogden in April, 1941, and was the first of four ministers who attended our needs during the very difficult war



Church Parade 1938 — Rev. Vaughan-Birch and Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies.

years. Mr. Davies stayed with us until December, 1943, and is presently the Minister at St. Saviour's Church, Vancouver.

Canon W. E. Herbert took over from December, 1943, until March, 1946, and is presently living out his retirement in Calgary. Canon Herbert is fondly remembered by many St. Mark's pioneers, young and old.

The Rev. R. G. W. Spellman was with us on a temporary basis from June to October, 1946. In November, 1946, The Rev. Major W. H. Morgan (now Canon Morgan, our beloved Honorary Assistant) came to St. Mark's and helped us out until June, 1947.

In June, 1947, The Rev. W. E. Askew was appointed Rector at St. Mark's and St. Martin's, and we feel that at this point in time a new era was begun in our Parish life. Mr. Askew's induction service was held in St. Mark's on June 23, 1947. He was inducted by Bishop Ragg, with E. H. Maddocks, J. E. Birchall, W. H. Morgan, R. Axon, Canon Herbert, C. E. Reeve and L. F. Rowe attending.

There were many post-war problems but St. Mark's seemed finally to start to come into its own. Quoted below is Mr. Askew's message taken from the first monthly bulletin issued by St. Mark's in March, 1950: "There is only one way for our Church to go in 1950 and ensuing years, and that direction is ahead. Let's everyone get behind and push. Our objective:— a new Church. It is a worthwhile goal to shoot for, so let's shoot straight and hard. Support the organizations behind your Church and have fun while you are doing so." Truly words of wisdom, and while we have our new Church we could do well to bear that message in mind today.

Many important and interesting events occurred during Mr. Askew's time at St Mark's and we must be forgiven if some are overlooked. On September 19, 1948, Mr Askew and Archdeacon Axon officiated at the dedication of the pulpit in memory of W. E. Roche. Mr. Roche had been a very active worker in the church almost since it was founded and was one of our first Honorary Vestrymen. We are happy and proud that his widow is still an active member of this Parish.

Many can remember the City-wide Mission held at St. Mark's, November 26 to December 3, 1950, under the direction of W. Gerald Burch.

At this time St. Mark's and St. Martin's were expanding at such a tremendous rate that it became necessary to appoint a Curate and in June, 1951, The Rev. C. Murray Starr (now Canon Starr at Saint Michael's) accepted the call.

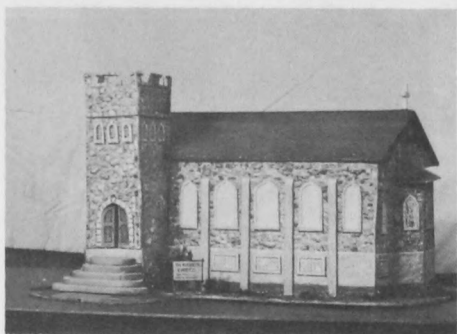


One of the last photographs of St. Mark's Church and Hall — What stories could be told!



THE START OF A NEW ERA — May 14, 1952, Bishop Calvert turns the first sod for new church. Rev. Askew, Rector, and Rev. Starr, Assistant, Mr. A. Ford, the building chairman, standing behind the Bishop. Note the drawing on the wall over the Bishop's head. An artist's (Mr. Miller) sketch of the new church.

Many of us remember well in the fall of 1951 when it was decided to build a new Church. This is a momentous occasion at any time in the life of any Church, but when you consider that we only had \$2,000.00 in the bank you realize it was an even greater step forward. The sod for the new Church was turned by Bishop Calvert on Wednesday, May 14th, 1952. This was one of the first official sod-turnings by the Bishop who was consecrated only a few weeks before. We had loans and debentures, brick funds, the old oaken bucket and many other money-raising schemes going for us, but the day the arches arrived C.O.D. and we had no money to pay for them, we used the scheme to end all schemes. We prayed. Yes, we prayed, and we thought, and then went to work and on Monday the arches were delivered and believe it or not they were paid for too. Pages and pages could be written on this chapter in the life of St. Mark's, but suffice it to say that we put our trust in God and our construction problems in the hands of Joe Fox and Arthur Townsend, and this turned out to be a pretty powerful combination for on Tuesday in Holy Week, March 31, 1953, Bishop Calvert officiated at the Dedication of the new Church. Many notables were present, among them, E. H. Maddocks, W. H. Morgan,



Hand-made model constructed to scale by Mr. St. J. Miller before any concrete plans were made. Note likeness to the finished building.



Finally above ground — rough floor laid by volunteers.



The ribs are in place and the first skin is being put on.



Meanwhile on the inside, things were going along quite well.



Work has begun — forms for the basement.



Two arches are up. The most difficult period past. These arches, the first of this kind used in Calgary, had been ordered and were on the way to St. Mark's, and the church had no money. But the prayers of this church family were heard. From here on it seems till the church was completed, things went on very well. Thanks to all, from the contractor to the water boy.



The roof is on and the church is really taking shape.



Boy, did that furnace make a difference. For several Sundays heat had been supplied by a flame in an oil barrel in the basement and the heat coming through holes in the floor.



The day before the first service in the new church.



The Volunteer foremen, Mr. A. Townsend and Mr. J. Fox — These gentlemen volunteered their time approximately 8 hours a day, from the driving of the first nail on the footings to the last dab of varnish on that high ceiling. Many others put in hundreds of free hours working on this fine church. Many gave what God had commanded, their money, their talent and their labor. They were proud to have the opportunity to do this so you and I and our children and our children's children may have a place to join together to worship God who makes all things possible.



A work bee to clean the plaster off the Chancel floor. The happy group includes Messdames King, Goodkey, Burns, Jinks, Mould, Axon, Allan, Askew; Messrs. Townsend, Mould, and a soldier from Currie.

E. N. P. Orme, W. E. Kerr, E. G. Flagg, W. E. Herbert, A. D. Currie, R. Axon, E. A. Justice, C. M. Starr, W. E. Askew, and a congregation of 500 people. This was a day none of us will ever forget. Incidentally the last service held in the old Church was 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion on the same day as the new Church was dedicated.

It had been decided early in 1953, that St. Mark's and St. Martin's would attempt to become self-supporting Parishes, and rather than make a choice between the two Churches, Mr. Askew resigned and accepted the position of Assistant to Dr. G. B. Snell at St. Clement's in North Toronto. At Mr. Askew's last service with us on June 28, 1953, he dedicated the new altar in memory of another long-time faithful worker of St. Mark's, Mr. E. C. Britton. Mr. Askew is presently the Rector of St. Barnabas Church in Toronto.

The Rev. Murray Starr carried on alone until August, 1953, when he and The Rev. Reginald N. Wright exchanged pulpits; Mr. Starr going to Hanna and Mr. Wright coming to Calgary. The reason for the two-month delay in Mr. Wright's arrival was due to the fact that we had to purchase a Rectory. This took until September when, through the kindness of many, credit was arranged, a down payment borrowed, and we bought 1807 - 33rd Avenue S.W. as our Rectory.

The Rev. R. N. Wright, our first incumbent, was inducted at 8:00 p.m. on September 25th, 1953, by Bishop Calvert. Among those attending were W. E. Harrison, Archdeacon Axon, E. A. Justice, and the new incumbent of St. Martin's, The Rev. Arthur Peach.

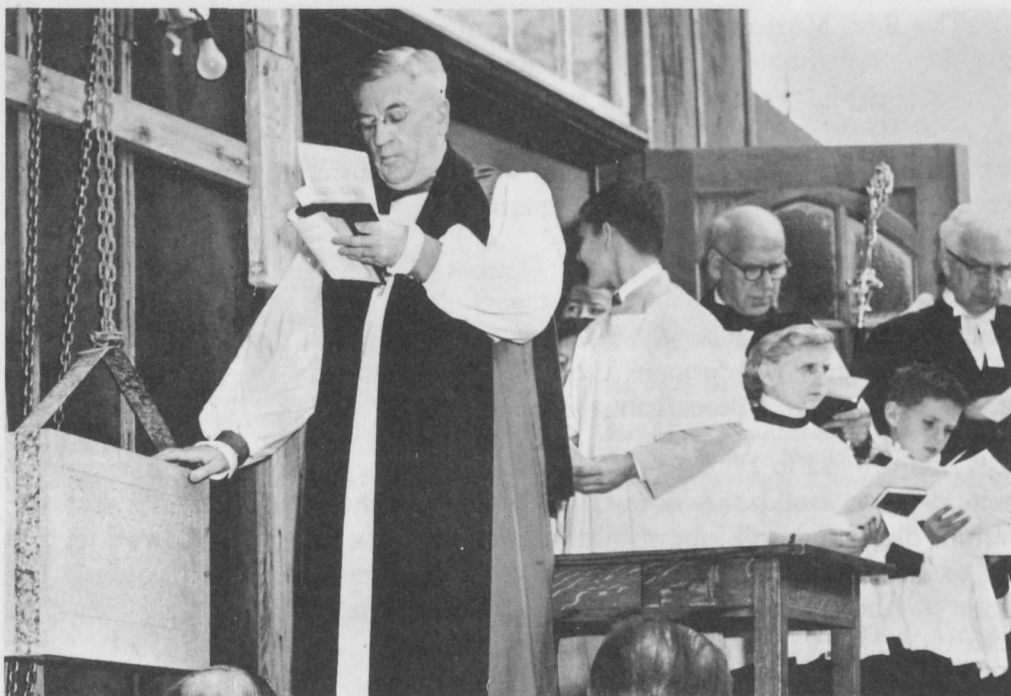
This proved to be a rather difficult time as we had gone into considerable debt to build the new Church and purchase the Rectory, but Mr. Wright didn't just talk about all that needed to be done, he showed us and led us and many a Saturday night we went home literally dragging. But when we heard him the next morning singing his heart out it seemed to give us all that little extra needed lift.

Being a new self-supporting Parish and a new Church, many new groups needed to be formed and organized and how Mr. Wright ever found time for everything will always be a mystery. He was at his best with the youth and under his leadership, the 32nd Scout Group was formed in January, 1954. The Group was under the sole sponsorship of the Vestry of St. Mark's.

The laying of the Cornerstone of our new Church took place on September 19th, 1954. Bishop Calvert placed the stone, assisted by Chancellor Hugh Farthing, Archdeacon Axon and Mr. Wright. It may seem strange to some that this occasion should take place some two years after the dedication of the church, but we simply could not afford the brick facing any sooner.

Following the laying of the corner stone and the finishing of the outside of the church, there came a period of two years of hard work, paying for what we had built and doing the many odd finishing jobs and other work so necessary in such a fine building. We can't help but feel that it must have been a great source of satisfaction for Mr. Wright to look back on just how much had been done in his three years with us. It was with great regret that the Vestry accepted his resignation in December, 1956, which allowed him to accept the position of Rector of St. John's Church at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, where he is still ministering.

Our present Rector The Rev. Gordon E. Hendra came to us from Rimbey, Alberta, and was inducted on March 3rd, 1957, by Bishop Calvert, assisted by Archdeacon Axon.



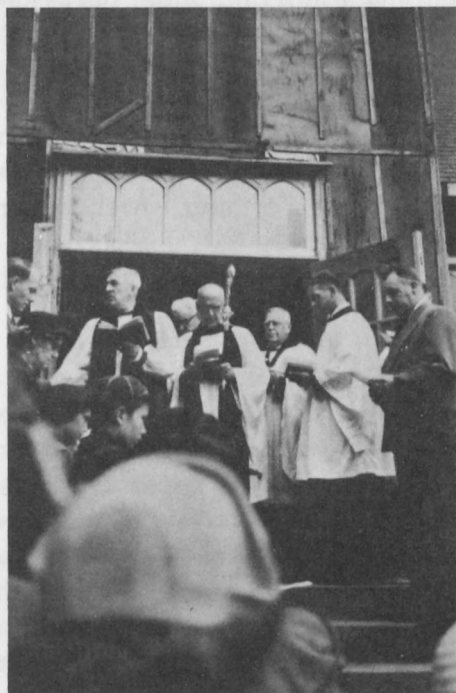
"St. Mark's Church to the Glory of God this Cornerstone was laid by Rt. Rev. G.R. Calvert, Bishop of Calgary."



The new church under construction and the Cub Pack of that time. Some of these boys are now Scout and Cub Leaders in this year, 1962.



A late 1950 Choir—Rev. Wright, Messrs. Miller, Morris, Walton, Bass, Taylor, Welsh, Townsend, Armitage; ladies include Mesdames Wright, Lamb, MacArthur, Armitage, Mould, Payne, Morris, Hicks, Stokes, Bass, Wilson; lads and lassies — Hood, MacArthur, Wrights, Kingsmith, Westbrook, Hall, Cullingham, Lamb, Lackie, Rimmer, Morris.



Another proud day, Sept. 19, 1954 — Historical documents of the church from all its organizations, money of the realm and newspapers of the day were enclosed behind this cornerstone.

In the summer of 1957, we purchased our present pipe organ from St. Augustine's Church at Lethbridge. Like most church purchases we could not afford it, but the price was right so the purchase was made. Here began another of our now famous between Sunday work "bees" until the organ loft was built and our new organ dedicated by the Rector on September 29th, 1957.

Early in Mr. Hendra's time and under his direction, the Vestry began serious discussion with regard to building a new Parish Hall. When the City of Calgary condemned our old church building and hall in 1957 a committee was formed to bring forward plans.

In late 1956 a name had begun to appear in our Parish register at irregular intervals and early in 1957 this name began to appear more and more often until Captain The Rev. Sidney G. Horne (Army Chaplain) was appointed Honorary Assistant in December, 1957. There followed three years of a very happy relationship with the Horne family. We are deeply indebted to them for their many contributions during their stay at St. Mark's.

There followed a period of very serious planning and much hard work on the part of Mr. Hendra and all those connected with St Mark's; and



The start of the last step in the completion of our church home, the Hall. Archdeacon Axon turns the first sod with The Rev. Hendra and Layreader Mr. W. St. J. Miller.

The Church and other Groups were also represented by Scouter John Mash, People's Warden D. Curwen, Mrs. A. Gunning, Allison Rimmer, Rev. Hendra, Archdeacon Axon, Mr. W. St. J. Miller, Rector's Warden R. A. Kingsmith, Mr. R. B. Mould.



on May 15th, 1960, Archdeacon Axon turned the sod for our new Parish Hall, assisted by the Rector and representatives of the various church groups.

In order to comply with city by-laws governing the construction of our new hall, it became necessary for us to acquire more property. The only place we could look was westward and we were indeed fortunate that a long-time friend, Mrs. Max Bishop, agreed to sell us her house and property which was next door to the church. This necessitated a change in Rectories; and our old one was sold and our present Rectory at 1816 - 33rd Avenue S.W. was purchased.

There followed an anxious summer as we watched our new hall being built, and just five months from the date of the sod-turning our new hall was dedicated. On October 23rd, 1960, Bishop Calvert performed the honor assisted by Archdeacon Axon, Archdeacon Dowker from Christ Church, The Revs. W. I. D. Smith, R. R. Griffiths, R. Davenport, and The Rev. R. G. Beairsto from our neighboring Southminster United Church. This was a very proud moment in the current life of our thriving Parish.

A fund had been started some time before to purchase a stained-glass window for the Chancel of our church and we are sure nearly all but Mr. Miller almost gave up before it finally arrived from England in May, 1961. This window was designed and a scale drawing hand-painted by Mr. Miller, and from this drawing our window was made in England and installed as we see it today. This beautiful window was dedicated on June 18th, 1961, by Bishop Calvert.

Over the years we feel we have been richly blessed with many very fine ministers, as witness the number who have gone on to greater things in their service to Christ and His flock. We felt particularly fortunate in 1961 when Mr. Hendra was able to get Canon Morgan to agree to act as Honorary Assistant. The Rev. Canon Morgan has filled an invaluable role in the life of St. Mark's over a span of more than twenty-five years, and to quote Canon Morgan, he "has been busier since he retired, assisting at St. Mark's and throughout the Diocese, than he ever was when he had a Parish of his own".

Over the years St. Mark's have hosted many city-wide and local Missions, but the one conducted by The Rev. Canon Michael Creal in September, 1961, will long be remembered as a real "Parish Life Conference".

It will soon be six years since Mr. Hendra became our minister and at his request we have kept references to his work at St. Mark's down to a minimum, but how can one minimize six years of such hard work and great accomplishments under his capable and ever-willing leadership. It is agreed that he has yet to preach a "bad" sermon, and our former ministers will agree that St. Mark's can be critical. His willing counsel, sound advice, sympathetic heart and open hand is there at all times and

we as a Parish sincerely hope that these have been only the first six of many years Mr. Hendra, his lovely wife Allie, and their delightful children Cathie, Carol and John David, will share with us.

Mr. Hendra has asked that special thanks be tendered here to our five good and faithful Lay Readers, Alan Gale, Bert Mould, Jack Routledge, Jack Morris and Gordon White whose assistance here and throughout the Diocese is so vital and so much appreciated.

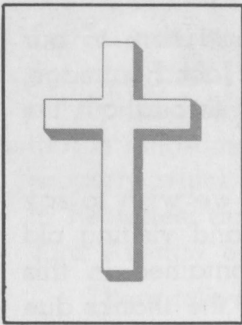
In concluding this chapter of the History of St. Mark's we wish to say what a thrill it has been, searching through old records and visiting old friends and members as we gathered the information contained in this booklet. No words can adequately nor completely express the thanks due so many wonderful and faithful people who over the years have contributed so much to the history and ultimate success of our church. In this booklet we have tried to set down an informative and interesting history of St. Mark's over the past fifty years. We know many names have been missed and many highlights have been overlooked and for our inadequacies as editors we apologize. We have tried to accomplish three major objectives in this booklet: firstly to set down for the old-timers some of the history they helped to make and events they helped to fashion over the years. If some words or a picture bring a smile or a tear we have accomplished objective number one. Secondly, we have tried to write an interesting and informative history for our present members in the hope that it makes them say proudly, "This is my Church"; and lastly to set down chronologically, dates and events of note so that when St. Mark's celebrates its next milestone this information can be used to write what will then no doubt be regarded as ancient history; but further to let future members know that we are proud and humble today when we say and say from the bottom of our hearts, "I belong to St. Mark's".

In closing we would like to quote from former Rector Mr. Wright's first bulletin to this Parish dated October, 1953: "Expect great things, and we shall achieve them; I of you and you of me. Let us go forward in the days which lie before us to make our church a house of prayer, a temple where the praises of God ring out from thankful hearts. Let us foster and create such enterprises in our parish life together as will show to the world about us, that we are workmen that need not be ashamed." —AMEN.



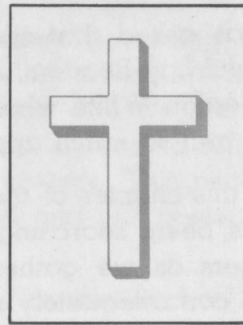
Church and Hall.

Ministers thru' the years



1912 - 1915

**Rev. James W.
Thomson**
Deceased



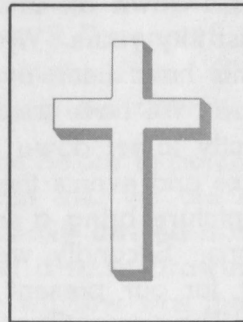
1915 - 1916

**Rev. Canon C. W.
Horne**
Deceased
(Temporary only as
Canon Horne was
Rector at Christ Church
at the time.)



1916

**Rev. Canon T. B.
Winter**
Deceased
(Temporary Rector from
June to Nov. 1916,
when he went
overseas.)



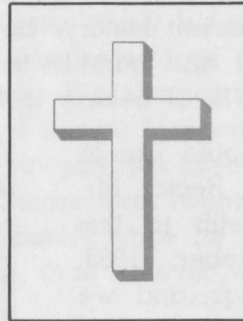
1918 - 1919

Rev. E. Cox Clarke
Deceased
(Mr. Clarke came out
of retirement and filled
in until a permanent
Rector could be
appointed.)



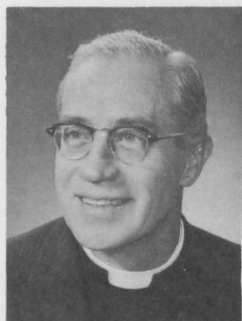
1919 - 1927

Rev. Horace H. Wilford
Deceased



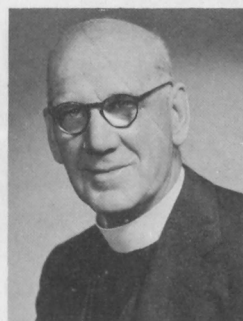
1927 - 1931

Rev. Arthur S. Wiley
Deceased



1931 - 1934

**Rev. Canon
R. Charles Brown**
Presently Rector of
St. Mary's Church,
Walkerville, Ontario.



1934 - 1936

**Ven. Archdeacon
Robert Axon**
Presently Secretary-
Treasurer of the
Diocese of Calgary.

Ministers thru' the years

1936 - 1941

**Rev. Canon Frederick
Vaughan-Birch**

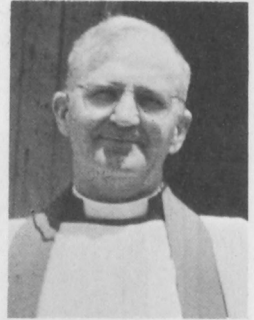
Presently Rector of
Holy Trinity Church
Parish of North
Saanich, B.C.



1941 - 1943

Rev. J. R. Davies

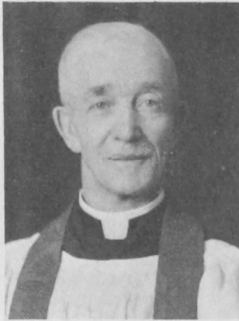
Presently Rector of
St. Saviour's Church,
Vancouver, B.C.



1943 - 1946

**Rev. Canon
W. E. Herbert**

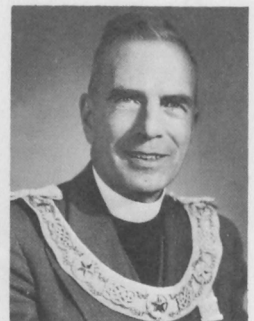
Presently living in
retirement at
Calgary, Alberta.



1946 - 1947

**Rev. Canon
W. H. Morgan**

Presently retired,
serving as Honorary
Assistant at St. Mark's.



1947 - 1953

Rev. Wm. E. Askew

Presently Rector of
St. Barnabas Church,
Toronto, Ontario.



1951 - 1953

**Rev. Canon
C. Murray Starr**

Curate at St. Mark's
and St. Martin's with
Rev. Wm Askew.
Presently Rector of
St. Michael's and
All Angels,
Calgary, Alberta.



1953 - 1956

**Rev. Reginald N.
Wright**

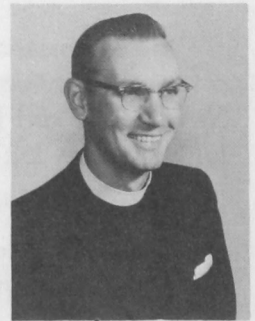
Presently Rector of
St. John's Church,
Moose Jaw, Sask.



1957

Rev. Gordon E. Hendra

Our present friend and
Rector since 1957.



*This page is respectfully dedicated to the memory of
Mr. W. St. John Miller*



For 49 years Walter St. John Miller, who died July 6th, 1961, in Victoria, B.C., was a member of St. Mark's Church. He was on the first Vestry of this Parish and was an honorary life member at the time of his death. Over the years Mr. Miller served in nearly every office in the church, in fact shortly before his death was heard to remark that he had done everything from cleaning the church to preaching from the pulpit and had enjoyed every one of his many jobs.

His service, over almost half a century, was climaxed by his key role in the building of the new Church and the new Parish Hall. He also obtained the stained-glass Chancel windows which beautify this house of God.

He is missed in the family of St. Mark's, not only as an example of a real and living faith but also for his true gentleness and his love of fun. Never once did he compromise his faith. Never once did he refuse a job for which he felt he had the ability in the work of the Church.

Those of us who were close to Mr. Miller could sense that he enjoyed and lived completely every day of his life . . . he was a remarkable man with his constant urges to paint, to write, and to compose — in short, to create. In a very real sense the Creator was within him.

Wardens thru' the years

	Rector's Wardens	People's Wardens
1913-15	Mr. J.M.S. Daintrey	Mr. A. Chatfield
1916	Mr. J.M.S. Daintrey	Mr. J. Webster (Mr. Webster was appointed in October, 1915)
1917-18	Mr. J.M.S. Daintrey (Mr. Brocking was appointed Rector's Warden from August to December, 1918.)	Mr. W.H. Richmond
1919-20	Mr. J. Webster	Mr. W.H. Richmond
1921	Mr. W. St. John Miller	Mr. W.H. Richmond
1922	Mr. C.E. Salter	Mr. W.H. Richmond
1923	Mr. F. Neve	Mr. A. Florendine (Mr. W. St. John Miller was appointed Deputy Warden in April, 1923.)
1924	Mr. G. Wilbraham	Mr. R. Newstead
1925	Major L.W. Miller	Mr. R. Newstead
1926	Mr. C.E. Salter	Mr. R. Newstead
1927-28	Mr. C.S. Nichol	Mr. W.E. Roche
1929-30	Mr. F.H. Hawes	Mr. W.E. Roche
1931	Mr. M. Clarke	Mr. W.E. Roche
1932	Mr. W. St. John Miller	Mr. P.J. Hughes
1933-34	Mr. W.E. Roche	Mr. P.J. Hughes
1935	Mr. C.E. Salter	Mr. E.C. Britton
1936-37	Mr. A.F. Collin	Mr. E.C. Britton
1938-39	Mr. C.E. Salter	Mr. S.D. Jenkins
1940	Mr. W. St. John Miller	Mr. C. Spreadbury
1941-50	Mr. W. St. John Miller	Mr. A. Townsend
1951-54	Mr. J.C. Routledge	Mr. R.B. Mould
1955	Mr. R.B. Mould	Mr. J. Rimmer
1956	Mr. J. Rimmer	Mr. R.B. Mould
1957	Mr. J. Rimmer (Mr. D.R.B. McArthur was appointed Rector's Warden May, 1957.)	Mr. J.A. Morris
1958	Mr. D.R.B. McArthur (Mr. R.A. Kingsmith was appointed Rector's Warden in August, 1958.)	Mr. J.A. Morris
1959-60	Mr. R.A. Kingsmith	Mr. W.D. Curwen
1961	Mr. R.A. Kingsmith	Mr. D.P. Smith
1962	Mr. R.A. Kingsmith	Mr. R.D. Knowles

Memorials & Gifts

"To the Glory of God"

This phrase is used in the service when memorials or gifts are presented to our church. Over the years since 1912 many such memorials and gifts have been given which have added so much to the worship and beauty of St. Mark's. Names have not been mentioned. We know some would be missed for there are so many. We say thank you to all for their gifts, large or small, seen or unseen.

May our lives at St. Mark's be so full of God's grace, we will be a memorial to those who follow after that they may say "To the Glory of God".

Organizations of St. Mark's Church

It is most difficult to obtain accurate and continuing records of the organizations of our church over the years, and for this reason only a brief paragraph is devoted to those about whom some facts could be located. This in no way indicates the activity nor the value to the Church of our many groups and organizations through the years.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES AND GROUPS

The women's organizations of our Church throughout the years have varied both in character and size. The nomenclature has ranged from Woman's Auxiliary, Woman's Guild, Woman's Help to Ladies' Aid, and back to W.A. For a period there was a Guild and W.A. in active service at one and the same time. The present Woman's Auxiliaries were formed in 1939. Such changes may be strange to the casual observer, but to one well acquainted with the temperaments of our congregations it is understandable. Then again the variety may be related to the many clergy changes we have experienced. Nothing daunted, however, the women of St. Mark's have done splendid work: so often, far more than financial statements and returns showed. They have always been willing to co-operate and assist in raising funds to maintain the Church and keep accounts "out of the red". Many a time the Vestry has turned to these faithful women for rescue, and they have never failed to help liquidate indebtedness. The annual reports of their labours have always brought forth heartfelt commendation and thanks. We would like to express here our deep appreciation of these endeavors, without which St. Mark's would have been in a sorry plight many a time over the years. The Vestry takes its hat off to you all, past and present, for great help in time of trouble, and offers its fullest co-operation in the future.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The history of St. Mark's would not be complete without some mention of our Sunday School. It is through the influence of the people devoted to this work that our Church survives from generation to generation. May this paragraph be a tribute to the many devoted parishioners who through the years have served God by teaching our young people. As is often the case, church records seldom reveal those who have given of their time and talents in this all important work. However, it is certain each one who has labored in this portion of God's vineyard will, when they read this paragraph recall many of the fond memories of their experiences.

To each of you who has served in St. Mark's Sunday School at any-time over the past fifty years, may God's richest blessing be upon you.

CHOIRS AND ORGANISTS

There is no accurate record of the choirs over the years, but we do know that the first one was organized in 1913. We were able to find the names of nearly all our past regular organists, but we know that many kind people have filled in over the years whose names will not appear here, but our thanks is certainly extended to them. A tireless worker in the early years of our Church, Mr. Fred Leslie was our first organist, followed by an old friend and former member, Mr. A. Florendine. Mrs. W. St. J. Miller took over from Mr. Florendine and faithfully "pumped" the old organ for many years. Miss Jean Raymond succeeded Mrs. Miller and later Eileen Robinson, a non-Anglican member helped out for a while. Mr. Florendine

then returned and stayed with us until September, 1953 when our present organist and choirmaster, Mr. Bert Walton was appointed.

Mr Walton is assisted by Mrs. Carol Holder who directs the Junior Choir. We would also like to mention Mrs. Beth McQuiston who has acted as our chief Sunday School pianist and relief organist for many years.

BOY SCOUTS, CUBS, GIRL GUIDES AND BROWNIES

There is no record of the exact starting date of the Scouting movement in St. Mark's, but the original group was the 7th, so we feel it must have been started almost as soon as the church itself. The first group for the Seventh was not sponsored by the Church, but rather by a Parent Group in the district. They did, however, use St. Mark's facilities for their meetings and in 1927 our Church adopted the Troop as their own. This arrangement continued until the early "forties" when the Church gave up their sponsorship and the Seventh Group moved to their present location at 34th Avenue and 14A Street.

In October of 1953 under Mr. Wright's direction, scouting was resumed at St. Mark's with an entirely new group being formed. This was the Thirty-second and included Cubs, Scouts, Guides and Brownies. Bob Pratt was the first Group Chairman and we know from first hand experience that many pages could be written on this facet in our history. Suffice it to say that the Group not only survived but has flourished until today we have three Cub Packs, a Scout Troop, a Guide Company and three Brownie Packs. There is no question that these groups serve a very valuable purpose in the teaching and training of our young people and our prayer is that they may continue to live up to their promise of "Doing their duty to God and the Queen".

ALTAR GUILD

An important organization which has served the Church since its inception is the Altar Guild. This is the all-important group of ladies who look after the Chancel of the Church and take care of decorations for special occasions such as the Easter Services, Thanksgiving Services and weddings. The head of the Group is called the Altar Mother and records indicate that there have been just five over the years. Mrs W. St. J. Miller, Mrs. P. J. Hughes, Mrs. F. Bate, Mrs. F. Vaughan-Birch and our present Altar Mother, Mrs. F. G. King who has held that position for over twenty years.

Our sincere thanks is extended to these ladies who have served in their quiet and efficient manner in this group which we feel is such an integral part of our Church.

ANGLICAN YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION

This group in St. Mark's actually grew out of an early Bible Class and we believe our first A.Y.P.A. charter was granted in the early 1920's. In 1941 this group suspended operations, probably because of the war and was re-organized and a new charter granted in 1949.

The aim of the A.Y.P.A. is to provide Christian training for the mind, body and souls of our young adults. We feel our Church is so much better in having this group among us.

There have been many other groups in St. Mark's over the years and while space will not permit mention of all names, we do want it known that each in their own way, no matter how small it may seem, have contributed much to our Parish life together, and we truly thank God for their service.

Church Highlights over Fifty Years

The following are just some of the highlights gleaned from various sources and taken from some of the old records. They are inserted here in the hope that they bring forth a fond memory or perhaps a chuckle.

April 7th, 1913 — "Mrs. Tyler was appointed Janitor at the Church at a salary of \$1.00 per week to be paid monthly." (Mrs. Tyler was our first janitor and we believe the reason she resigned shortly afterward was because the \$1.00 per week was a little irregular.)

April 7th, 1913 — It is recorded that the first Communion Silver was donated by the Women's Group of St. Mark's and St. Stephen's. The altar Cross by Mr. W. St. J. Miller.

Mrs. Miller recalls that the original Altar Frontals in the old Church were made from cut white velvet which had been part of Queen Victoria's wedding gown.

August 12th, 1913 — It was agreed that the Curate's stipend be increased by \$2.00 dating from August 1st, 1913. (We can't help but wonder what it was increased from.)

October 6th, 1913 — Mr. G. E. Burrell was appointed St. Mark's first Choir-master.

February 3rd, 1914 — The first audited report showed "That while our finances are not exactly in the pink of condition they were not too bad considering the year just past".

The water used for Baptisms fifty years ago came from the Powell home, and the Sunday School children in the neighborhood began to call the Powell's water, "Holy Water" because it had been used in the Church.

June 8th, 1914 — "A discussion took place as to how the finances of the Church could be bettered, and it was decided to re-organize the envelope system and to write letters to those who were behind in their payments and also to write to those who had not pledged themselves to give a certain sum and ask them to do so, these letters to be made up by the two Wardens and the Rector."

(This sounds more like an excerpt from the 1962 Vestry minutes.)

July 16th, 1914 — "Owing to the Bank balance being not enough to meet all payments, it was decided to pay them all except the Rector's stipend, and to pay him \$25.00 on account. The Rector then read a letter from the Bishop of Calgary stating that a grant from the Colonial and Continental Church Society which had been asked for by the Rector would be forthcoming, this grant to be used for Stipend only. This met with much approval by all present."

(I'll bet it did, particularly by the Rector).

September 7th, 1915 — "It was suggested that the Hall be used for social purposes and that a rifle range might be popular. City by-laws prevented this and the proposal was shelved".

November 1st, 1915 — "Christ Church took St. Mark's 'under it's wing' by having their Rector, Rev. Horne take the regular evening service at St. Mark's."

March 28th, 1916 — "It was agreed that our first organist should be paid and it was further agreed that the amount should be \$100.00 per year."

February 7th, 1917 — "The Women's Guild undertook to provide flowers for the Church."

September 5th, 1917 — "Concern was expressed by the Vestry over the possibility of temporary closing of St. Mark's as Rev. Horne felt he could no longer look after Christ Church as well as St. Mark's."

November 7th, 1917 — St. Mark's temporarily had no Rector and the Lay-Readers carried on. "It was agreed to pay any Clergy who at any time may conduct a service in the Church, the sum of \$5.00 which they were at liberty to return if they so desire."

February 19th, 1918 — "A vote of thanks to Master H. Gale for attending the fires both in the Church and Hall on Sunday afternoon."

"The attendance at the annual meeting was rather small (only about 12) as the temperature was 25 degrees below zero."

August 8th, 1918 — "Rev. E. Cox Clarke expressed a willingness to conduct services in St. Mark's and to accept the sum of \$20.00 per month for same. This amount being as much as the Vestry felt able to guarantee at present."

November 3rd, 1918 — "It was agreed that the Rector keep an account for the next two or three months of expense incurred in connection with his motor car and the Vestry would consider and decide about paying same."

"To raise the funds to cover the items of new basement and furnace it was agreed that the idea of a skating carnival should be entertained and an offer by Mr. A. Baxter to donate his rink for one evening to such a carnival on a 50-50 basis was duly discussed and generally approved."

January 12th, 1920 — The report of the Sunday School at the annual meeting stated that the total number of children in the school at 73.

June 7th, 1920 — It was reported at the Vestry meeting that there were about 150 Anglican families in the district.

November, 1920 — The Vestry devoted a good part of the meeting discussing various reasons which kept people away from Church and suggestion as to the best ways of attracting and holding attenders.

(Current Vestries have discussed this same problem many times.)

December, 1920 — "Mr. Miller spoke feelingly of the drafts to which the Choir were subjected when occupying their places in the Church."

(It is said that in the winter months, one of the male choir members put one shovel full of coal in the heater just before the service and a second just before the sermon.)

January, 1921 — "The Diocesan Assessment for 1921 has been set at \$99.00" (The assessment for 1962 is \$4,000.00)

June 6th, 1921 — "The broken window in the Church was referred to and it was agreed to have it mended. Mr. Gale to get the glass, Mr. Neve to put it in and Mr. Miller to whiten it." (That's real teamwork.)

At the same meeting it is noted that the St. Mark's Recreation (or Tennis Club) was started.

July 4th, 1921 — "It was decided that the duties of the 'Officer of the Day' on Sundays included the counting of the offertory and closing the windows." (We have demoted the current 'Officer of the Day' to Head Sidesman.)

August 1st, 1921 — "Canvassers appeared to have been most successful having received promises of contributions amounting to over \$3.00 per week." (We wonder if they kept them up.)

January, 1922 — Benches for the Church was a subject to which the Vestry devoted considerable time. It is noted that they were purchased, installed and consecrated on March 19, 1922.

May 1st, 1922 — A moment of silence was observed in memory of St. Mark's first Minister, Rev. J. W. Thomson, who had recently passed away.

June 6th, 1922 — "A group representing St. Mark's and St. Martin's Churches was appointed to investigate the pooling of resources of both Churches and to see if one Church could serve the needs of both."

August 10th, 1922 — A Memorial Tablet in memory of St. Mark's Parishioners who had given their life in the first world war was unveiled at a special service, by Lt. Col. G. R. Pearkes, V.C., (Major General G. R. Pearkes is presently the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.)

January 10th, 1923 — At the Annual Meeting in 1923 a presentation was made to Mr. Miller by members of the Church as a small acknowledgment of Mr. Miller's many and varied services rendered to St. Mark's. (The gratitude of the people of St. Mark's to Mr. Miller never changed in the forty-nine years he served this Parish.)

February 4th, 1923 — "The Skating Carnival held at the Crystal Rink on January 15, realized a profit of \$16.00." (It was noted that Calgary's Fire Chief Cappy Smart and Col. Pearkes had been asked to be judges at this carnival.)

April 10th, 1923 — "A letter from Mr. Max Bishop was read asking that the strip of land on the west side of the Hall and adjoining Mr. Bishop's garden be boarded or fenced off on account of the mischief it encouraged." (This same property is where our present Rectory stands.)

July 3rd, 1923 — "The Vestry gave their approval to the Recreation Club and Women's Help Society to put on a Garden Fête with the Rector offering his garden for the purpose." This Fête was held on August 29 and was a pronounced success as a profit of \$116.37 was realized.

October 2nd, 1923 — "It was reported that the coal-man had dumped the coal outside the Church and Messrs. Newstead and Derry undertook to put it in the basement." (Thank heavens for gas.)

January 8th, 1924 — At the 1924 Annual Meeting it was reported that there were 105 children registered in the Sunday School, 53 of these being in the Primary. Sunday School collections were averaging \$1.96 per week.

January 31st, 1924 — "A sleighing party was made up and a drive over the Prairie towards the Elbow River was held. This occupied one and a half hours and the party was to return to the Parish Hall for refreshments followed by a dance. However the snow was not good owing to a recent thaw and the going was slow. On returning to 34 Avenue the four horses became detached from the sleigh and the party walked back to the Hall." (Oh, what fun it is to ride etc., etc.)

November 3rd, 1924 — "The Vestry approved the proposed new kitchen for the Hall and the work was completed in quick time with the Vestry meeting held in the new kitchen on March 3, 1925."

June 23rd, 1925 — Mr. Lloyd enquired about a suggested sanitary convenience in connection with the Hall and the Rector replied that nothing definite could be decided on the subject at present."

March 30th, 1926 — "The Vestry considered the question of a permanent Rectory on the Church grounds."

May 13th, 1926 — "The Vestry meeting was preceded by a tree planting effort by the Vestrymen on the Church grounds. The trees were donated by the City Parks Department Superintendent, Mr. Reader."

May 13th, 1926 — "It was agreed that water and sewer be put in the Parish Hall." (This did not include the much discussed sanitary convenience. This was put off for another ten years.)

September 28th, 1926 — "It was agreed that the price for the Harvest Supper should be .50c each which amount would include a chance on a raffle for a live calf." (We told you there had been many different fund raising schemes over the years.)

November 1st, 1926 — "The question of what to do with the calf was debated and it was agreed that the Rector and Mr. Lloyd should settle the best means of disposal of same." (If the raffle was held it would appear that the Vestry had won the calf.)

December 7th, 1926 — "The Vestry received a cheque for \$20.00 from Mr. Lloyd for the sale of the 'fatted calf'."

December 7th, 1926 — "The house currently rented as a Rectory was being sold and all loan companies in the city had refused building loans so St. Mark's could not build their own."

December 30th, 1926 — "Rev. H. H. Wilford surprised the Vestry by announcing his resignation and his plans to return to England."

January 10th, 1927 — "The Vestry approved the taking over of the Scouts and making it the St. Mark's Church Troop."

March 6th, 1927 — "A motion was approved that the coal account be paid next to the Rector's stipend, the latter not having been looked after the previous month." (And we think we've got trouble.)

March 15th, 1927 — "The Vestry set up a 'Ways and Means' committee to consider the boundaries of St. Mark's and St. Martin's." (Another committee was set up just a few years ago to consider the same thing.)

October 2nd, 1928 — "The Vestry discussed the installation of gas in the Church and hall and this work was to be completed as soon as possible." (I knew they would get tired of all those coal bills.)

December 2nd, 1930 — It is noted that the Janitor was sick in bed and the Church was cold, and there was a dust storm during both the 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. services. (What a day!)

The foregoing constitutes excerpts from the Vestry minutes, as such, and the following are highlights remembered and passed on for inclusion in this booklet.

During the early 1920's many will recall Viscount R. B. Bennett speaking at St. Marks, The highlight was not always what he said but that he was noted for the loud-colored socks he wore.

There is the story of the family who, during the 1930's, attended St. Marks regularly and each Sunday the mother would stop father and the children and have them all deposit their chewing gum in the big pine

tree that used to grow on the north east corner of the Church property. No one can recall whether she let them pick it up again after the service.

It is recorded and remembered by many the incident of the wind-storm during the fall of 1935. At the Sunday evening service the lights and building were swaying so badly that Mr. Axon eliminated his sermon, offered the prayers and the congregation hurriedly departed. Tie-rods for support were soon added. These tie-rods were supposed to eliminate the sway and keep the walls from falling in, but later supports had to be added to keep the walls from falling out.

During Mr. Wilford's time and while he was living on 31st Avenue it is recalled that the Wilfords were expecting a blessed event. Two or three of his neighbors across the street, one of whom was the Miller family, had arranged a signal to announce the birth. If it was a girl Mr. Wilford would raise the right blind on his front window and if it was a boy he would raise the left one. Each morning the neighbors would peer out and check to see if there was any news. On a Sunday morning the neighbors noticed both blinds up and they assumed Mr. Wilford had forgotten the signal but found out later that day when he announced in Church that his wife had given birth to twins — a boy and a girl.

In the summer of 1954, who will ever forget the Saturday that Mr. Wright spent in the bell tower. The Church bell had a habit of flipping over when tolled too vigorously and he had gone up to correct this problem. He straightened up the bell and then found he was unable to get down and spent the better part of the afternoon trying to attract someone's attention. Some men were working in the basement and, on hearing the bell, investigated but when they found no one around assumed it was only some children being mischievous. Mr. Wright finally threw a note out to a lady who had just alighted from the bus and she in turn got Mrs. Wright and with other help "Reg's rescue" took place.

In 1957 many of us recall the Saturday we painted the dining room in the old rectory, and Joe Fox kept us entertained with stories of his experiences in the old west. These stories were told as only Joe can tell them, and it's no wonder it took us all day to paint just the dining room. This was Mr. Hendra's first meeting with Joe and it's a good thing the Reverend is tall for had he been on a ladder we know he would have fallen off in fits of laughter.

This 1959 story concerns one of our choir boys (we won't mention his name) who asked Mr. Hendra if the Communion wafers were crackers. He did his best to explain that they just sounded that way. The same boy later expressed a desire to leave the choir because while sitting through the Communion watching all those people eat crackers and drink pop, he got so hungry he just couldn't stand it.

As a closing anecdote, we must tell about the incident involving Captain Horne at the annual meeting in 1959. It was suggested that the salary of our honorary assistant be doubled. This caused quite a stir until those in attendance realized that two times nothing is still nothing — ah, yes, we will remember Captain Horne.

We sincerely regret that limited space will not permit the recording of all the highlights that we have found and that have been suggested to us, and we do hope that some of what is recorded here will bring a nostalgic smile to those who recall these times and incidents.

Notes and Autographs

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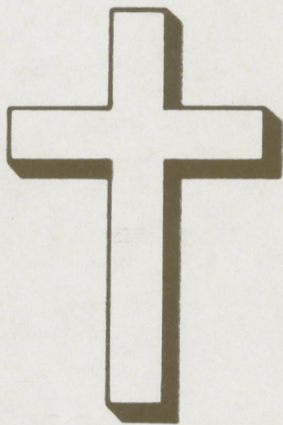
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Prayer of St. Mark

(Collect for St. Mark's Day, April 25)

O Almighty God, who has instructed thy Holy Church with the heavenly doctrine of thy Evangelist Saint Mark: Give us grace, that, being not like children carried away with every blast of vain doctrine, we may be established in the truth of thy holy Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



"FORWARD WITH GOD"

St. Marks Church
50th Anniversary

CALGARY
1912



ALBERTA
1962